



# **Radford City Police Department**

20 Robertson Street Radford, VA 24141

# Acknowledgements

**MAYOR** 

**David Horton** 

**CITY MANAGER** 

**David RIDPATH** 

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

Naomi Huntington

Jessie Foster

Onassis Burress

**Forrest Hite** 



#### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Jeff Dodson

#### PREPARED BY

Chris Caldwell Administrative Services Captain
With help and input from the Entire Police Department

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# Letter From Chief Jeff Dodson

Honorable Mayor Horton, Members of City Council, City Manager Ridpath, and Radford Community,

It is my distinct honor to report to you the accomplishments of the hard working men and women of the Radford City Police Department during calendar year 2020. I am proud of the work that these men and women perform each day for our community. Despite the setbacks of the COVID 19 pandemic, the quality of service provided to our community by this department was never impacted. In 2020, many communities experienced civil unrest, erosion of trust between community/police, and increased calls for transparency/accountability. These challenges were not present here in the City of Radford or involving the Radford City Police Department. The Radford City Police Department maintained a great working relationship with the community, continued being responsive to community needs, and explored new ways to increase departmental transparency.

We strive daily to deliver the highest quality of law enforcement services to the Radford community. The department is committed to service while being guided by the six pillars of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing and positive engagement with the community. These six pillars below have defined the department's work and success during 2020.

Pillar #1-Building Trust and Legitimacy

Pillar #2-Policy and Oversight

Pillar #3-Technology and Social Media

Pillar #4-Community Policing and Crime Reduction

Pillar #5-Training and Education

Pillar #6-Officer Safety and Wellness

The Radford City Police Department's mission statement states that the police department will strive to enhance quality of life by providing professional law enforcement service to our citizens, businesses, and visitors through a shared responsibility with our community. The police department works hard each day developing positive relationships with its community in order to solve crimes and improve quality of life issues within the City of Radford. The department has dedicated countless hours in the community at various special events. We are committed to the safety and security of students within the Radford City School System. We continue to work closely with school officials to ensure students have a safe learning environment and provides school resources officers to maintain security at City schools. We maintain a positive relationship with Radford University Police Department and Radford University to ensure students safety on and around the Radford University campus.

It is my hope that this report will provide City Council, city staff, and most importantly our community with a snapshot of the great work that is being accomplished by this agency. We look forward to continuing our great partnerships with this amazing community in 2021. We will continue serving this great City in 2021 with courage, order, pride, and service.

Jeffrey P. Dodson Jr., Chief of Police

effrey P. Dodson Jr.

# Six Pillars of Twenty-First Century Policing

#### **Pillar One:**

Building Trust and Legitimacy: Building trust and nurturing legitimacy between police and citizens is the foundational principle underlying the nature of relations between law enforcement agencies and the community they serve. Law enforcement cannot build community trust if it is seen as an occupying force coming in from the outside to impose control on the community.

#### **Pillar Two:**

Policy and Oversight: If police are to carry out their responsibilities according to established policies, those policies must reflect community values. Law enforcement agencies should collaborate with community members, especially in communities and neighborhoods disproportionately affected by crime, to develop policies and strategies for deploying resources that aim to reduce crime by improving relationship, increasing community engagement, and fostering cooperation.

#### Pillar Three:

Technology and Social Media: The use of technology can improve policing practices and build community trust and legitimacy, but its implementation must be build on a defined policy framework with its purposes and goals clearly de-lineated. Implementing new technologies can give police departments an opportunity to fully engage and educate communities in a dialogue about their expectations for transparency, accountability and privacy.

#### **Pillar Four:**

Community and Crime Reduction: Community policing emphasizes working with neighborhood residents to coproduce public safety. Law enforcement agencies should therefore, work with community residents to identify problems and collaborate on implementing solutions that produce meaningful results for the community.

#### Pillar Five:

Training and Education: Today's officers and leaders must be trained and capable to address a wide variety of challenges including international terrorism, evolving technologies, opioid epidemic, changing laws, new cultural mores and a growing mental health crisis.

# What Radford PD has done towards 21st Century Policing

#### **Building Trust and Legitimacy (Pillar 1)**

We have developed the Chief's advisory panel to give the department a connection with the businesses and residents. On our website we have created a transparency portal. This portal gives more access to crime reports and thus allowing the department to be more transparent.

#### **Policy and Oversight (Pillar 2)**

We are doing a complete review of our policies and procedures. We are now using a program called PowerDMS. PowerDMS is a central repository for drafting, revising, disseminating, and tracking organizational policies across their entire lifecycle. By creating a single source of truth with powerful search capabilities, you can always find what you need. When you need it.

#### Technology and Social Media (Pillar 3)

During 2020 we were able to equip every Patrol vehicle with Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) and electronic ticket systems.

We converted the evidence room to a digital format. This system makes it easier on Officers, as well as giving the department a more accurate auditing system.

We have expanded our use of social media in an effort to give more information to the public.

#### **Community and Crime Reduction (Pillar 4)**

During 2020 we saw a five percent reduction in overall crime. We continue to work with the Community through our Community Outreach programs, and are in the process of completing a community survey. This survey will give the Department an insight into what the community needs.

# What Radford PD has done towards 21st Century Policing

#### Training and Education (Pillar 5)

The Department is committed to maintaining the highest levels of training and education. We continue to send officers to specialized training and continue to help Officer's complete college through tuition assistance.

All officers have completed de-escalation training and we continue to train and expand our CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) training.

#### Officer Wellness and Safety (Pillar 6)

Lieutenant Mullins began leading a Department Wellness Workgroup that is taking an in depth look at how our agency can improve not only its physical wellness, but also mental and family wellness especially during these crazy times in policing. The workgroup focuses on both sworn and non-sworn employees. The workgroup has met several times and is doing outstanding work thus far. In addition to department discussions, Lieutenant Mullins has spoken with several outside partners/experts including the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) wellness committee members.



# Chief's Advisory Panel

It is the mission of the Radford City Police Department to constantly look for new ways to positively engage with the community. The Chief's Advisory Panel was developed in order to continue the mission of shared responsibility with our citizens, businesses, and visitors in preventing and solving crime within the community. Having community support, gaining trust, and accepting feedback is vital in achieving police legitimacy. The Chief's Advisory Panel also assists the agency in maintaining transparency with the community and soliciting feedback on delivery of police services within the City of Radford.

#### **Residents**

Vondelear Hubbard / John Giesen

Albert Mah / Fiona Rhodes

#### **New River Valley Community Services**

Glenn Matthews (Substance Abuse Coordinator)

#### **Radford University**

Chris Davis (SGA President)

#### **New River Community Action**

Rev. Gina Rhea (NRCA Board member/Resident)

#### Montgomery-Radford-Floyd NAACP

Deb Travis / Karen Jones

#### **Business**

Michelle Mullins (Mullin's Funeral Home)

Kelsi Jones (BT's)

#### **Faith Based Community**

Rev. Dean (Ministerial Association President)

#### Radford City TRIAD

Ralph Doud (TRIAD Member)

#### **Chamber of Commerce**

Keith Weltens (Ameriprise Financial)

#### **Radford City Schools**

Don Goodman (RCPS Safety & Security Consultant)

#### **Victim Services/Advocacy**

Laura Beth Weaver (Director of WRC)

# Community Policing Data Collection

Effective July 1, 2020, the Virginia Department of State Police, Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Uniform Crime Reporting Section began the collection of community policing data, as required by the 2020 Acts of Assembly Chapter 1165, The *Community Policing Act*. This Act requires that each time a local law-enforcement officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff or State Police officer stops a driver of a motor vehicle, the officer shall collect specific data, based on the officer's observation or information provided to the officer by the driver.

The bill also requires each state and local law-enforcement agency to collect and report to the State Police the number of complaints the agency receives alleging the use of excessive force.

For July 01, 2020—December 31, 2020 the number of stops was 1268

Traffic Violation	956	75.39%
Equipment Violation	290	22.87%
White	989	78.00%
Black	236	18.61%
Unknown	32	2.52%
Hispanic	38	3.00%
Not Hispanic	1073	84.62%
Unknown if Hispanic or not	157	12.38%
Male	783	61.75%
Female	482	38.01%
Warning Issued	903	71.21%
Citation/Summons	311	24.53%
Vehicle Searched	134	10.57%
Person Search	145	11.44%

# **Community Information**

Poverty: 36.3% persons below poverty Line

FIPS Code—51750

Median household income 2015—2019 = \$36, 297

#### **Demographic Data**

White: 86 %

Black: 9 %

Asian: 2 %

Hispanic: 3 %

Person s 65 years and older 9.4%

Community Data				
Current Population (ACS 2019)	17,691			
Population Change since 2010	11.3 %			
Population per square mile	1,662			
Land area in square miles	9.87			
Median Age	23			
Females Population	53 %			
Per capita income	\$21,797			
Persons below the poverty line	36 %			

# **Community Information**

Radford is an independent city located in Southwest Virginia and is included in the Blacksburg-Christiansburg Metropolitan area.

Radford is the home of Radford University, and has four schools: McHarg Elementary, Belle Heth Elementary, Dalton Intermediate and Radford High School.

Radford's main residential neighborhoods are Monroe Terrace, Radford Village, and Sunset Village. The neighborhoods began as a result of the Radford Army Ammunition Plant being built, and the influx in population.

Radford is located at 37°7′39″N 80°34′10″W (37.127585, -80.569523).

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 10.2 square miles (26.4 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 9.9 square miles (25.6 km<sup>2</sup>) is land and 0.3 square miles (0.8 km<sup>2</sup>) (3.3%) is water. The New River runs along the southwestern and northern edge of the city.

The climate in this area has mild differences between highs and lows, and there is adequate rainfall year-round. According to the Köppen Climate Classification system, Radford has a marine west coast

climate, abbreviated "Cfb" on climate maps.

Poverty: 36.3% persons below poverty Line

FIPS Code-51750

Median household income 2015—2019 = \$36, 297

Households, 2015-2019 = 5,573

#### **Community Data**

Current Population: 17,691 (ACS 2019)

Population change since 2010 = 11.3%

Median Age: 23.4

Sex: 53% Female

Income: \$21,797 per capita income

Poverty: 36.3% persons below poverty Line

#### **Demographic Data**

White: 86 %

Black: 9 %

Asian: 2 %

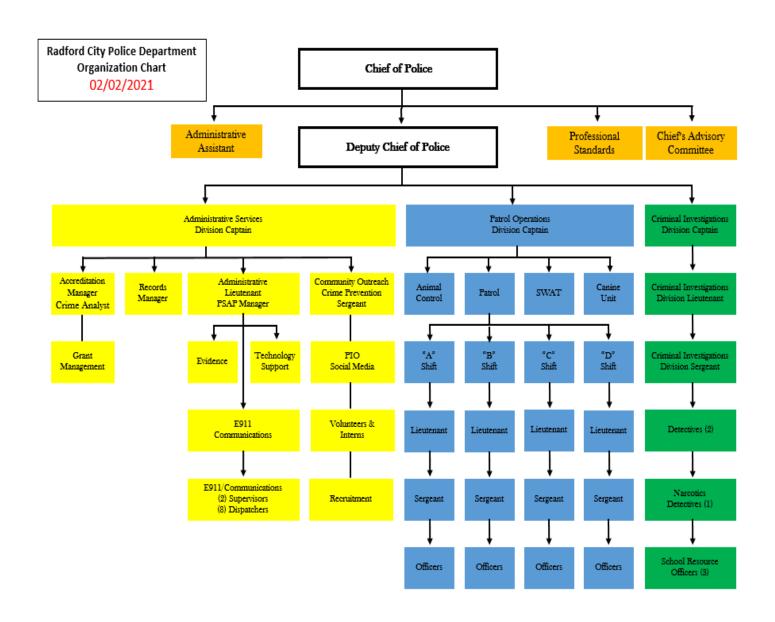
Hispanic: 3 %

Persons 65 years and older 9 %

# /lission Statemen

The Radford City Police Department will strive to enhance quality of life by providing professional law enforcement service to our citizens, businesses, and visitors through a shared responsibility with our community will serve daily with COURAGE, ORDER and PRIDE.





# Agency Demographics / Staffing Sworn Personnel 39 Civilian Support Staff 3 Animal Control 2 FT and 1 PT E911 Center 2 Supervisors and 8 Dispatchers

# Departmental Data

#### **Professional Standards:**

The Professional Standards Unit reports to and is overseen by the Chief Jeff Dodson. The Professional Standards Unit has as its major **function** the receiving, processing, and investigation of complaints made against members of the Department. To ensure the public's trust and maintain the Department's integrity, this **unit** conducts immediate and objective investigations of all complaints.

The Radford City Police Department's policy is to accept and investigate any and all complaints against police personnel, including anonymous complaints. The professional standards unit is who will investigate both internal as well as external complaints against members of this agency. There are four classifications of dispositions of complaints:

- 1) Unfounded—no truth to the allegations of wrongdoing
- 2) Exonerated—employees actions or conduct was justified
- Not Sustained—not enough evidence to verify complaint
- 4) Sustained—alleged wrongdoing was verified

The Radford City Police Department investigated two (2) complaints during the year 2020. All of those complaints received were thoroughly investigated and one (1) complaint was sustained.

#### **Biased-Based Policing**

The Radford City Police Department policy strictly prohibits Officers from stopping, searching, detaining, and/ or attempting to search any vehicle or person based solely on an individuals race, national origin, citizenship, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, or sexual orientation.

Officers are trained to treat everyone with courtesy, respect, and fairness. The department takes complaints involving biased-based policing very seriously. It is the policy of the department to assign all complaints involving bias-based policing to the department's Professional Standards section for investigation. Complaint about bias-based policing can originated both internally and externally.

In 2020, the Radford City Police Department received 1 complaint involving biased-based policing, which was unfounded

In 2020, all Officers completed training from the Virginia Association of Chief of Police (VACP) pertaining to implicit bias.

# Departmental Data

#### **Use of Force**

The Radford City Police Department policy requires that officers use the minimal amount of force necessary to gain compliance in a situation when a subject is actively resisting arrest or being combative. In 2020, the department recorded twenty-five (25) use of force incidents. Sixteen (16) physical force, Two (2) CEW (Taser) Deployments, One (1) physical & CEW (Taser), one (1) CEW (Taser) Display, one (1) discharge of less lethal munition (Bean Bag), and four (4) Firearm Displays. There were no Canine (K-9) bites or use of force.

The department documents all use of force incidents and each application of force by an officer is then administratively reviewed by the command staff to ensure that it was in compliance with policy.

Use of force incidents can range from verbal, physical control, electronic control weapon (Taser), OC spray, Canine, Baton or Deadly Force.

Eighty-Five (85) percent of the use of force incidents occurred between 6 pm and 6 am. Twelve (12) of the incidents involved persons between the age of 21-29 years of age.

The department also documents displays of Taser and Firearms as use of force applications. The department tracks all incidents where injured or sick animals are euthanized as a use of force incident.

Of the twenty-five (25) use of force incidents, all were found to be in compliance with policy and the department did not receive any complaints of excessive force in 2020.

Officers receive annual training on the use of force and review department policy regarding use of force on a continual basis. In year 2020, Officers were required to complete training in De-Escalation. The agency also added a policy concerning choke-holds and a duty to intervene.

#### Vehicle Pursuits

Police vehicle pursuits can be very dangerous for the public, offender, and the officers involved. The Radford City Police Department's vehicle pursuit policy is restrictive in nature and limits officers to vehicle pursuits of suspects who have committed serious offenses. Department policy requires officers to evaluate the need for apprehension to the risk posed by the vehicle pursuit.

Officers receive annual training on vehicle pursuit policies. Officers involved in vehicle pursuits are required to document their actions on a pursuit report, which is then reviewed by the command staff to ensure that the pursuit incident was complaint with agency governing vehicle pursuits. In 2020, the department had five (5) vehicle pursuit, and all were in compliance with department policy

The administrative division is overseen by Captain Chris Caldwell. The Administrative Services Division is tasked with Community Outreach, Social Media, Community Services, Accreditation, Evidence, E-911 Communications, and Technology.



Responsibilities of the Administrative Division:

Social Media Community Services Accreditation

Evidence E911 Communications Technology

<u>Captain</u>—Chris Caldwell <u>Administrative Assistant</u>—Cindy Carroll

<u>Lieutenant</u>—Adam Frost <u>Records System Manager</u>—Elena Huffman

<u>Sergeant</u>—Emily Hite <u>Accreditation Manager / Crime Analyst</u>—Sonia Ramsey

#### **Community Outreach and Crime Prevention**

Community outreach by police departments is an effort to engage with community members proactively, and not in a reactionary way. Outreach is an important part of community policing, which is defined by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics as "a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies, which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques between the police and the community.

The Police Department is dedicated to building community partnerships with residents, business owners and those that visit or live in the City of Radford. The programs are designed to encourage conversation, education and participation. Some of the nationally standardized programs such as Coffee with a Cop and National Night Out have been extremely successful and allows opportunities for personal community engagement with officers and dispatchers.

Education is also essential in outreach programs and include child and personal safety. Crime Prevention is best achieved by partnerships with the community and the police department. Citizens taking ownership with their neighborhood combined with direct action can improve the quality of life for the visitors and citizens of Radford.

#### **Community Needs:**

Transparency: Focus on Social Media/web site and offering in person open conversations on current hot topics affecting our community.

A citizen community survey will be sent to the citizens of Radford to gauge the current perceptions and needs of the Community. This survey will give a better understanding of what the current community needs and concerns are regarding agency performance, crime prevention measures, Concerns over safety and security within the City of Radford, and any recommendations and suggestions for improvements regarding department operations. Once the data has been analyzed, the Crime Prevention officer will formulate programs or resources to start a discussion on problem-solving methods to seek a better understanding.

#### **Business:**

Enhancing our business watch program: Offering security site assessments and providing current crime trends.

#### Residential:

Developing Neighborhood Watch in order to enhance community engagement through the residential communities. Primary focus would be on providing resources at various community meetings, working with Chief's advisory board to address broad issues, and providing neighborhoods groups with data specific to their area.

Security Site assessments and tips are available for residential housing as well.

**Community Outreach and Crime Prevention** 

The Radford City Police Department believes that building a strong partnership with its community is vital to the overall success of the police department.

In 2020, the police department explored new ways to positively engage with the community and enhance existing partnerships with community partners to improve police services within the community.

The police department was excited to have the opportunity to participate in numerous community events in 2020.

During 2020 the Radford City Department participated in over fifty (50) community events to include: Coffee with a Cop, Donut with the Chief, Polar Plunge, Touch a Truck, Teacher Appreciation Parade, Restaurant BINGO, Faith Based Leader meetings, Santa's police Cruise, walk with the Chief and National Night out.

In October 2020 the Police Department created the "Safe Exchange Zone" in the front parking lot of the Police Department.

The Safe Exchange Zone has two dedicated spaces that are under video surveillance and allows the public to conduct: child custody exchanges and meeting for face to face online sales, or just an area to meet where you will feel safe.





#### Social Media

The Police Department's community outreach section utilizes social media to connect with its citizens and business community.

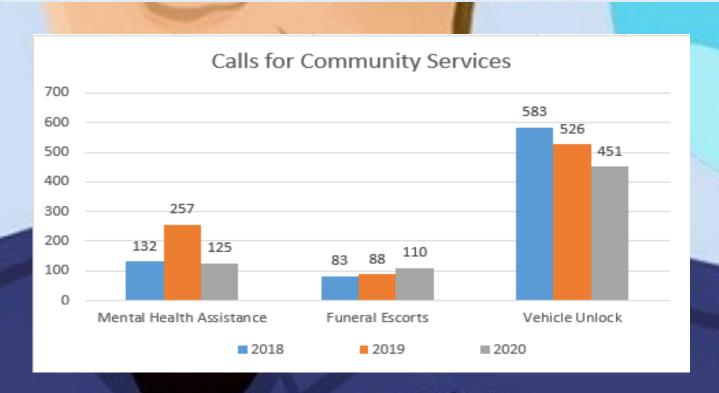
Social Media allows the department to keep the public informed about crime prevention tips and current events within the police department. The department currently utilized Facebook, and has plans to expand it's presence on other social networking platforms in 2020.

More than ever these days, people want transparency out of their policing agencies.

Social media allows us to showcase the outstanding work that our officers do on a daily basis.

Social media can help spread information rapidly to community members, which can be useful during public safety emergencies and natural disasters. It can also reduce the time it takes for first responders to get the important information they need, such as location coordinates to help a person in danger

Social media gives law enforcement agencies new, much more direct, channel of communication



#### Records

The Records division is responsible for maintaining all the departments records and answer requests for records. Elena Huffman is the records manager for the Police Department.

The records division is also responsible for collecting and submitting all the data that is required by the Community Policing Data Collection act. This requires records to collect all the data from the Officers on a daily basis and putting it into a specially formatted excel document to be submitted. In 2020 we collected data on 1271 police encounters that had to be manually documented.

During 2020 the Police Department completed 1,348 police reports and 249 accident reports. All of these reports must be reviewed by the Records manager to ensure that they are correct and then submit them to the State and FBI.

We are currently working towards converting our records from paper to digital. This will greatly improve our efficiency and speed up the process of answering requests for records, etc.

# 2020 NUMBERSExpungements16Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA)296Background Checks196Criminal History Checks31Concealed Weapon Permit Background Checks305

### Awards and Recognitions

#### **Career Achievement Award**

Deputy Chief Angie Frye was awarded the first-ever Career Achievement award for the Radford City Police Department Deputy Chief Frye was presented this award after being recognized by the department for her 34 years of dedicated service. Frye has taken on several long-term leadership roles, including interim Chief. Her leadership qualities and dedication to the Police Department has not only had a positive impact within the department but has had tremendous impact on the community.

#### Officer of the Year

The Officer of the Year award for 2019 was presented to Sergeant D. Conner. Sergeant Conner possesses exceptional leadership qualities, has a passion for community service, and has continued to strive through attaining several certifications and professional achievements over the year. Conner always leads by example and serves with compassion daily.

#### Benny Ridpath Award

The Benny Ridpath Award is presented to Senior Police Officer Sean Weston. This award was established to recognize Benny Ridpath's legacy to the community. Ridpath was known for his tremendous love for the City, his passion for serving the community through various outlets, and leaving a positive outlook on every life he touched.

#### Traffic Safety Award

The Traffic Safety Sward was presented to Sergeant Evan McManus. The traffic Safety award is awarded to the officer that has contributed time and effort to make it their mission to help provide the safest and efficient movement of vehicles and pedestrians in our community.

#### **DUI Safety Award**

CONTRACTOR OF

Sergeant McManus, who was recognized by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) for his outstanding work in helping reduce impaired driving in the City of Radford. McManus has a total of eighteen (18) DUI/DUID arrests in 2019.



#### **Promotions**

#### **Administrative Division Captain**

Captain Chris Caldwell has been with the Radford City Police Department for 21 years. He received his Bachelor of Science from Radford University, as well as an MBA from Liberty University. In his 21 years, he has had the opportunity to experience working within all divisions of the police department, including being a K-9 officer.

#### Lieutenant

Michael Mansdoerfer is a 10-year veteran of the police department and serves as a shift Lieutenant in the patrol division. Prior to his career in law enforcement, he graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. He is also a current member of the SWAT, Defensive Tactics Instructor, and Field Training Officer for the department. He has attended specialized leadership courses such as the FBI National Academy Associates in Police Leadership and a Supervisory Development course at New River Community College.

#### <u>Sergeant</u>

Sergeant Travis Coffey has been with the Radford City Police Department since 2012 but has been in Law enforcement since 2010. Before starting his Law Enforcement career, he served six years in the military with the 29th Light Infantry Division. He has been a member of the SWAT team for the last six years. He is currently a Field Training Officer as well as a General Instructor and holds instructorships in Firearms, Urban patrol rifle, Exterior Response to Active Shooter Events, and Operations in low light conditions. Coffey has also attended The FBINA First-line Supervisor School as well as many other career development schools

Sergeant Evan McManus attended Radford University where he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice, with a minor in psychology. He has been with the Police Department since 2016. He has attended various specialized schools and training including, but not limited to, Field Training Officer School and the FBI LEEDA First Line Supervisor School.

## Accreditation

2020 was a busy year in the Accreditation Section. In addition to providing proofs of compliance for our third term of reaccreditation through VLESPC (Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission), we have been busy moving towards national accreditation through CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies).

Law enforcement reform has been a hot topic in the media for the past several years, and even more so during 2020. The Radford City Police Department has been meeting accreditation compliancy since 2000, and we have been working to take ourselves to an even higher standard. Moving from a state level accreditation process to a nationally recognized level of accreditation is our first step in the process.

In 2020, the Accreditation Section began the review of existing policies and procedures. Utilizing experts from the department in policy specific information (current laws, governing bodies, proper procedures, etc.), the process of policy review and updating began with high priority areas such as Use of Force. In rewriting and updating written directives, the Accreditation Manager has insured that we are not only meeting state accreditation standards, but national ones as well so that we are preparing for a smooth conversion after our final state reaccreditation in 2022.

The Department obtained software to make the process of updating policy and procedure easy. PowerDMS can be used to house our documents in as well as can be used to store our proofs of compliance when we begin the process of accreditation with CALEA. In addition, it is a fantastic resource for officers in the field, as any policy or procedure can be pulled up using the PowerDMS app for use in the field. This software has been very beneficial to the entire department and is a great resource for us.



# **Evidence**

The property and evidence function at the Radford City Police Department previously was handled by the Criminal Investigations Division and in 2020 the responsibility was transferred to the Administration Division.

Lieutenant Frost is currently in charge of the Evidence room and is assisted by Sergeant Martin with any asset forfeiture paperwork. A complete audit of the evidence was conducted and some policy changes were put in place.

We have transitioned the room from a paper system to an electronic system, utilizing "bar codes' and scanners. This new way of tagging evidence has made the auditing process a lot quicker and simpler.

Approximately 450 pieces of evidence was able to be destroyed, which gave us the opportunity to reorganize the room, to make use of all the available space.

The new electronic system works with a hand-held scanner to accurately inventory all the items, just as they can at a large box store.



#### E911 Communications Center

The Radford City Police E911 Communications center is staffed by ten Emergency Tele-Communicators (Dispatchers). Two of those positions are the newly added supervisors positions. We now have one supervisor for day shift and one for night shift. The center is staffed twenty-four hours a day, with at least one dispatcher, but is optimally staffed when two dispatchers are working. The dispatchers work twelve hour shifts, with having to work every Wednesday for four hours.

All 911 calls within the City and all non-emergency calls come through the Police Department's Communication Center. These calls also include all after hours Electric Department, Street Department and Water/Sewer Department. During a power outage the calls within the center increase substantially.

The E911 center is overseen by Lieutenant Adam Frost, who assumed the Administrative Lieutenant Position in 2020.

Through the use of "CARES" money we were able to replace the broken and aging chairs in the communications center with chairs that are designed for 24\7 use and are more comfortable then chairs purchased in the past. These chairs were also had their new communications logo (Below) embroidered in the headrest, giving the communications staff a since of pride and ownership. These chairs are also made of a material that can be cleaned easily with a bleach water solution, making them sanitary as well.

Lights were also added to each dispatch console, that indicate whether the dispatcher is on the phone or the radio. This allows people inside the center to know when to keep their voices down, and when a dispatcher is available or not.

The E911 center is working on restructuring the training program, with the ultimate goal of becoming an APCO P33 certified center. The APCO Project 33 Agency Training Program Certification is a formal mechanism for public safety agencies to certify their training programs as meeting APCO American National Standards (ANS)







# E911 Communications Center

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
	Inbound	488	465	497	390	447	509	546	617	607	530	532	474	6,102
911	Abandoned	70	73	68	47	59	74	83	108	77	92	83	55	889
	Total	558	538	565	437	506	583	629	725	684	622	615	529	6,991
	Inbound	3,468	3,189	3,374	2,945	3,296	4,157	4,152	4,250	3,991	4,000	3,516	3,657	43,995
Ad	Abandoned	68	71	97	47	75	92	95	91	83	82	90	73	964
Admin	Outbound	1,504	1,506	1,418	1,234	1,468	1,650	1,768	1,918	1,831	2,072	1,757	1,580	19,706
	Total	5,040	4,766	4,889	4,226	4,839	5,899	6,015	6,259	5,905	6,154	5,363	5,310	64,665
	Total	5,598	5,304	5,454	4,663	5,345	6,482	6,644	6,984	6,589	6,776	5,978	5,839	71,656



For the year 2019 the number of calls was 70,420, and in year 2020 it was 71,656, so there was an increase in the overall calls by 1,236. Being that the world was in the middle of the biggest pandemic, the communications center remained busy.

# Technology

#### Speed Sign

The department purchased a new speed sign that is maintained and strategically placed by Lieutenant Frost. The speed sign is rotated on a weekly basis throughout the City's neighborhoods and problem speed areas. The sign has the capability to photograph speeding vehicles and also able to compile data and statistics from each location and print a detailed summary report. This data allows the department to identify problem areas and vehicles so that Patrol Units can be utilized to perform radar patrols.



#### **Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs)**

We were able to purchase enough MDTs to issue one to every patrol officers. The MDTs serve as both a desk computer and a computer in their patrol car. We also purchased Microsoft Surfaces for the detectives. These devices allow Officers to perform work in the field just as the would at their desk or office.

#### Eticket

We were also able to add Eticket to each officers car. This system increases efficiency and help with Officer Safety.

# **Patrol Operations Division**

Patrol Operations comprises the primary function of the Radford City Police Department. The Patrol Operations Division is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with each shift under the supervision of a Lieutenant who is assisted by a Sergeant.

In addition to traffic law enforcement, investigating vehicle accidents, and working criminal cases, Patrol Officers respond to calls for service in all areas. They provide escorts during funeral services as well as escorts to banks for local businesses, they provide assistance for disabled vehicles (one of these services includes unlocking vehicles in which the keys have been locked inside), answer after hour animal control complaints, provide assistance in civil cases when needed, and many other extraordinary calls for service.



In 2020 the Patrol Division responded to 13, 375 calls for service, down from 17,268 in 2019. Of these calls for service—1,438 resulted in reports.

The patrol division had 235 TDO/ECO transports during 2020.

Responsibilities of the Patrol Operations Division:

Patrol Canine Unit SWAT Bike Patrol Animal Control

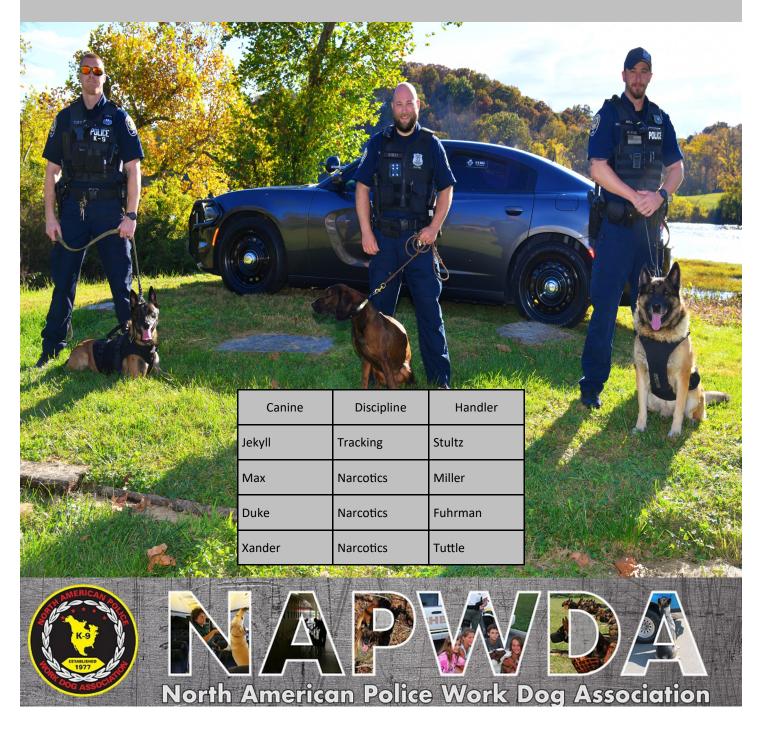
 $\underline{\textit{Captain}} - \mathbf{Scott} \ \mathbf{Schwarzer}$ 

Lieutenants-Slaughter, Szerokman, Mullins, Mansdoerfer

Sergeants—McManus, Webb, Coffey, Conner

# Canine

The Police Department has four canine teams. These teams undergo extensive training and are certified in a discipline. Each patrol shift has a canine assigned and the teams are available for call outs when needed.



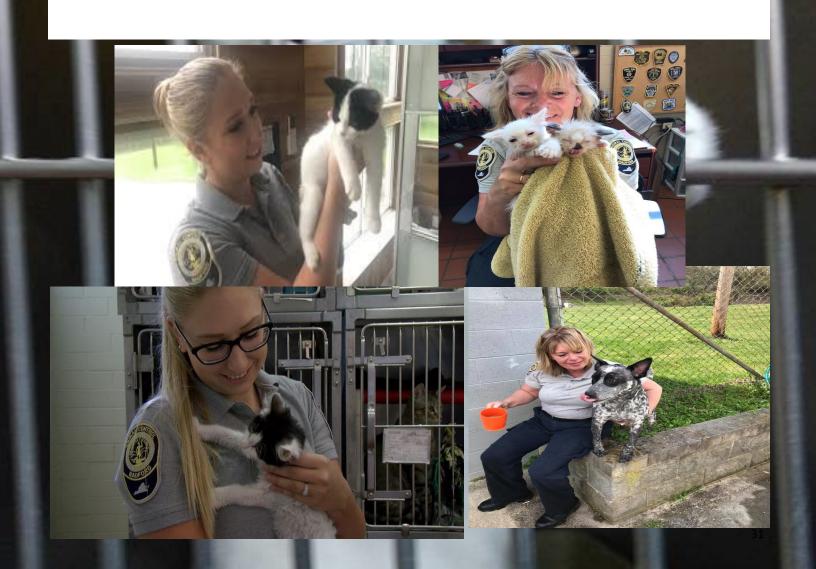
# **Animal Control**

#### **Animal Control 2020**

2020 held many challenges for Radford Animal Control and the shelter. COVID-19 brought us many issues that we had not encountered before. We were not allowed volunteers or trustees to assist with the daily care of the animals, but the animals still received the best care possible with Senior ACO Katrovitz and ACO Caldwell shouldering the extra workload and making the best out of a difficult time. The shelter was closed in general but we still managed to return animals to their owners in a timely manner and aided people with adoptions by appointment using Facebook, and email.

Animal Control responded to 653 complaints involving animals during 2020.

During 2020 the animal shelter had to be evacuated several times, due to the New River rising. All animals were able to be fostered or housed at other animal control facilities.



## **SWAT**

#### **ACTIVATIONS AND DISPOSITIONS**

The Departments SWAT was utilized for three separate incidents during 2020. Two of these were for an arrest & search warrants that were deemed "high risk" due to suspect history, potential presence of firearms, and severity of offense. The third was for an emotionally disturbed person that had barricaded himself inside his residence.

For all three incidents, the individuals were successfully taken into custody with no notable circumstances.

SWAT was not utilized this year for Virginia Tech home football games due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

#### **TRAINING OVERVIEW FOR SWAT**

COVID-19 curtailed much of the Team's planned training and selection of new team members. Despite the pandemic all firearms qualifications and physical fitness mandates were met by all officers.

#### **EQUIPMENT**

During 2020, the department replaced soft and hard body armor for all SWAT officers as required by the armor manufacturer. New gas masks were purchased for all patrol and SWAT officers.



# Criminal Investigation Division

The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for investigating cases that are passed on to them from the Patrol Operations Division. The cases they investigate are usually more severe in nature and/or require more time and resources than are available to patrol Officers.

Detectives assist with executing search warrants, and are responsible for processing major crime scenes and investigating unattended deaths.

During 2020 the Investigations Division investigated 179 cases.

The Criminal Investigations Division is staffed by:

1 Captain2 General Investigators1 Lieutenant1 Narcotics Investigator

1 Sergeant

Worked multiple sexual assaults and child abuse investigations

Investigated twenty-six (26) unattended deaths

#### **MAJOR CASES WORKED**

Murder of two year old juvenile

Solved Burglary where suspects broke into a home during a funeral for a former Radford Police Officer.

Responsibilities of the Criminal Investigation Division:

General Investigations Narcotic Investigations School Resource Officers

Captain—Pete Rutzinski

<u>Lieutenant</u>—Jerry Holdaway

Sergeant—Eric Martin

<u>Detectives</u>—Carla Cross, Jimmy Smith, Austin Cox

School Resource Officers—Thad Beasley, Brian Armentrout, Mark Mills

# **Narcotics Unit**

Search Warrants Executed 7
Amount of Money Seized \$6,870.00
Vehicles Seized 0

Firearms Seized 9
Wanted Persons Arrested 10

Meth continues to be on the rise as compared to any other drug. Meth investigations continue to be by far the bulk majority of investigations worked.

#### Seizure of multiple firearms

Enhanced the cooperation between agencies in the New River Valley. Narcotics detectives cross sworn and jointly working all investigations, leading to more cases and bigger cases.

Took a more active roll in working with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and Christiansburg Police to target wanted individuals in the New River Valley. This led to multiple arrests by utilizing intelligence gathered through CI's and collaborative LE means

Controlled Substances	Total Purchased and/or seized
Marijuana	4 pounds
Cocaine	28 Grams (Schedule II)
Meth	128 Grams (Schedule I)
MDMA/Molly	28 Grams
Ketamine	14 Grams
Prescription Pills	105 (Schedule III)
Fentanyl	None
Heroin	None
Suboxone	None
Hallucinogens/Psyclobin	None
LSD	None

#### **Icy Roads Operation**

Narcotics search warrant led to counterfeiting ring where printing equipment, washed money and forged \$100.00 bills were located.

Investigation and subsequent arrest of major dealer Garrett Chapin who had been convicted of distributing narcotics in Radford previously. Large quantity of drugs and money found.

# **School Resource Officers**

**School resource officers** (SROs) are police officers who work in elementary, middle and high schools. They are responsible for working with school administrators, security staff and faculty on developing comprehensive safety plans to ensure schools are safe places for students to learn.



During 2020 the Police Department was able to add two new SRO's to the Division. The addition of these two officers allows us to have officers inside all of the City's schools. These positions were obtained through a grant.

Officers in school systems have diverse roles. School-based officers' assignments in schools may vary depending on the school district, but there are common responsibilities such as mentoring, teaching, creating partnerships, building relationships, and ensuring school safety. Time spent at the school also varies – hours assigned can be full-time, part-time, or on an on-call basis only. Officers often play a blended role in schools, depending on the unique characteristics of the school. The most important things for school-based officers to know are what their role is and how to best engage with students, parents, administrators, teachers, and staff while on campus



#### National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Implemented to improve the overall quality of crime data collected by law enforcement, NIBRS captures details on each single crime incident—as well as on separate offenses within the same incident—including information on victims, known offenders, relationships between victims and offenders, arrestees, and property involved in crimes.

Unlike data reported through the UCR Program's traditional Summary Reporting System (SRS)—an aggregate monthly tally of crimes—NIBRS goes much deeper because of its ability to provide circumstances and context for crimes like location, time of day, and whether the incident was cleared.

#### Group A Offense Codes

There are 23 Group A crime categories made up of 49 Group A offenses; therefore, there are forty-nine (49) Group A Offense Codes.

Arson, Assaults, Bribery, Burglary/B&E, Counterfeiting/Forgery, Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property, Drug/Narcotic Offenses, Embezzlement, Extortion/Blackmail, Fraud Offenses, Gambling Offenses, Homicide Offenses, Human Trafficking, Kidnapping/Abduction, Larceny/Theft Offenses, Motor Vehicle Theft, Pornography/Obscene Material, Prostitution Offenses, Robbery, Sex Offenses (Forcible and Non-Forcible), Stolen Property Offenses, and Weapon Law Violations

#### **Group B Offense Codes**

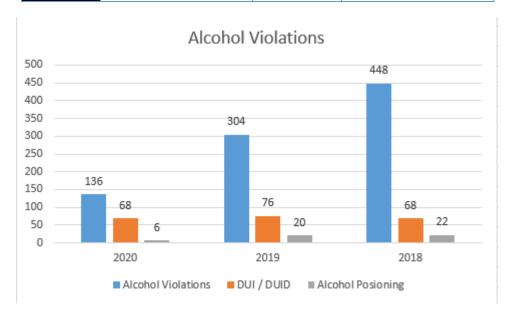
NIBRS developers assigned a separate ninety (90) offense code numbering series to the ten (10) Group B crime categories consisting of ten (10) Group B offenses.

Bad Checks, Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations, Disorderly Conduct, Driving Under the Influence, Drunkenness, Family Offenses (Non-Violent), Liquor Law Violations, Peeping Tom, Trespassing and all other Offenses

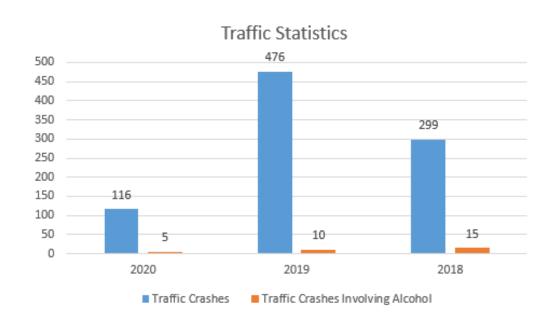
GROUP A OFFENSES			
Offense	2019	2020	% Change
Homicide	1	1	0 %
Kidnapping	3	4	+ 33 %
Rape	6	14	+ 133 %
Forcible Sodomy	5	1	- 80 %
Sexual Assault with an object	1	3	+ 50%
Robbery	1	3	+ 50%
Aggravated Assaults	29	25	- 14 %
Simple Assaults	140	138	<b>- 2</b> %
Intimidation	12	12	0 %
Arson	0	1	+ 100 %
Extortion / Blackmail	1	1	0 %
Burglary / Breaking & Entering	25	31	+ 24 %
Shoplifting	22	39	+ 77 %
Theft from a Building	5	13	+ 160 %
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	24	33	+ 37 %
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts & Accessories	6	8	+ 33 %
All other Larcenies	111	75	- 32 %
Motor Vehicle Theft	3	12	+ 300 %
Counterfeiting / Forgery	24	8	- 67 %
False Pretenses / Swindle / Confidence Game	23	41	+ 78 %
Credit Card / ATM Fraud	9	6	- 33 %
Impersonation	7	6	- 14 %
Wire Fraud	2	1	- 50 %

GROUP A OFFENSES (Continued				
Offense	2019	2020	% Change	
Embezzlement	1	2	+ 100 %	
Stolen Property Offenses	3	3	0 %	
Destruction / Damage Property / Vandalism	113	105	- 7 %	
Drug / Narcotic Offenses	289	254	- 12 %	
Drug Equipment Offenses	145	127	- 12 %	
Pornography / Obscene Materials	2	7	+ 250 %	
Prostitution	0	0	0 %	
Weapon Law Violations	26	24	- 8 %	
Grand Totals	1051	998	- 5 %	

Year	Alcohol Violations	DUI / DUID	Alcohol Poisoning
2020	136	68	6
2019	304	76	20
2018	448	68	22



Year	Traffic Crashes	Traffic Crashes Involving Alcohol
2020	116	5
2019	476	10
2018	299	15



Traffic Crashes resulting in Injuries					
2018	2019	2020			
14 6 3					

# Conclusion

2020 will most likely go down as one of the most challenging and significant years in law enforcement history. Not only was it the year of the pandemic, but it was also the year that saw Police Reform Initiatives.

Despite these events, you can see that the Radford City Police Department remained professional and continued to provide the best service to the citizens and visitor's to the City of Radford.

